

**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (withdrawn)

Claim 2 (withdrawn)

Claim 3 (withdrawn)

Claim 4 (withdrawn)

Claim 5 (withdrawn)

Claim 6 (withdrawn)

Claim 7 (withdrawn)

Claim 8 (withdrawn)

Claim 9 (currently amended): In a TDMA system, a method for calibrating a gain of a head end receiver, said method comprising:

monitoring MAC layer control operation to determine an anticipated upstream quiet period;

during said upstream quiet period, measuring signal strength at a measurement point within said receiver; and

determining receiver gain based on said measured signal strength and a known noise level.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9 further comprising thereafter adjusting receiver gain to a desired level.

Claim 11 (original): In a TDMA system, a method for calibrating a gain of a head end receiver, said method comprising:

monitoring an indication of reception quality;

upon an indication of excellent reception quality, disconnecting a selected one of at least two antennas;

while said selected one antenna is disconnected, measuring signal strength at a monitoring point in a receive chain coupled to said selected one antenna; and

determining receiver gain based on said measured signal strength and a known noise level.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 10 further comprising thereafter adjusting receiver gain to a desired level.

Claim 13 (withdrawn)

Claim 14 (withdrawn)

Claim 15 (withdrawn)

Claim 16 (withdrawn)

Claim 17 (withdrawn)

Claim 18 (withdrawn)

Claim 19 (withdrawn)

Claim 20 (withdrawn)

Claim 21 (currently amended): In a TDMA system, apparatus for calibrating gain of a head end receiver, said apparatus comprising:

a calibration control unit that monitors at the head end MAC layer control operation to determine an anticipated upstream quiet period, that during said upstream quiet period, measures signal strength at a measurement point within said receiver, and that determines receiver gain based on said measured signal strength and a known noise level.

Claim 22 (original): The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said calibration control unit adjusts receiver gain to a desired level.

Claim 23 (currently amended): In a TDMA system, apparatus for calibrating a gain of a head end receiver, said apparatus comprising:

a calibration control unit that 1) monitors an indication of reception quality, 2) upon an indication of excellent reception quality, disconnects a selected one of at least two antennas, that 3) while said selected one antenna is disconnected, measures signal strength at a monitoring point in a receiver chain coupled to said selected one antenna, and that 4) determines receiver gain based on said measured signal strength and a known noise level.

Claim 24 (original): The apparatus of claim 23 wherein said calibration control unit thereafter adjusts receiver gain to a desired level.

Claim 25 (withdrawn)

Claim 26 (withdrawn)

Claim 27 (currently amended): In a TDMA system, apparatus for calibrating a gain of a head end receiver, said apparatus comprising:

means for monitoring MAC layer control operation to determine an anticipated upstream quiet period;

means for, during said upstream quiet period, measuring signal strength at a measurement point within said receiver; and

means for determining receiver gain based on said measured signal strength and a known noise level.

Claim 28 (currently amended): In a TDMA system, apparatus for calibrating a gain of a head end receiver, said apparatus comprising:

means for monitoring an indication of reception quality;

means for, upon an indication of excellent reception quality, disconnecting a selected one of at least two antennas;

means for, while said selected one antenna is disconnected, measuring signal strength at a monitoring point in a receive chain coupled to said selected one antenna; and

means for, determining receiver gain based on said measured signal strength and a known noise level.